

<p><b>WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT for Region 8</b> <b>Week ending May 12, 2017</b></p>
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**OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION**  
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**OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**  
*No report*

**OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY ASSISTANCE**

**Region 8 Presenting at National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Annual Training Meeting in Denver, Colorado**

Key Message: On May 16, 2017, the Sustainable Management of Food Lead will present on community-based social marketing at a meeting for the small business assistance program.

- Virginia Till will present: Improving Compliance Through Behavior Change Messaging
- Customized hands-on activity included.
- This annual training meeting is hosted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
- Website: [ [HYPERLINK "https://nationalsbeap.org/training"](https://nationalsbeap.org/training) \t "\_blank" ]
- Will include approximately 45 attendees representing 35 states.
- Contact: Virginia Till, 312-6008; Kimberly Pardue-Welch, 312-6983

**Region 8 Presenting at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) Pollution Prevention Advisory Board Meeting**

Key Message: On May 23, 2017, the Sustainable Management of Food Lead and the Sustainable Materials Management Lead will present at the monthly CDPHE Pollution Prevention Advisory Board Meeting.

- Topics presented: 1) Sustainable Management of Food and 2) Sustainable Materials Management and the Built Environment.
- This is a monthly meeting hosted by CDPHE.
- Includes approximately 20 attendees from state and local governments, non-profits, business and others.
- Website: [ [HYPERLINK "https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/ppab-members"](https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/ppab-members) ]
- Contact: Virginia Till, 312-6008; Kimberly Pardue-Welch, 312-6983

**OFFICE OF TECHNICAL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**  
*No report*

**OFFICE OF WATER PROTECTION**

**EPA Region 8 webinar presentation on Partnerships with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and States on May 2.**

Key Message: During a webinar focused on working with agricultural partners and at the request of EPA HQ, Region 8 presented our experience partnering with NRCS and the resulting successful outcomes.

- The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission hosted the webinar

- The webinar was attended by 182 participants from 32 states and organizations, Elite Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ohio River Sanitation Compact, United States Department of Agriculture, and American Clean Water Association, as well as Regions 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
- The presentation was focused on protecting water quality while ensuring viable, sustainable agriculture.
- Specifically, Region 8 presented on our partnership work to improve water quality and soil health in the lower Arkansas River Valley, Colorado, and implementation of non-point source Best Management Practices with NRCS conservation practices to improve water quality in North Dakota.
- Feedback from attendees was positive.
- Contact: Eric Steinhaus 312-6837; Judy Bloom 312-6395

### **Office of Water Protection (OWP) Drinking Water Program Holds Annual Meeting for State Directors May 16-17, 2017**

Key Message: The Region 8 OWP Drinking Water Program holds our annual in-person meeting with state drinking water program directors next week.

- This meeting improves working relationships between the EPA and our Region 8 states. We discuss successes, challenges, practices to improve resource efficiencies and implement new regulations, and new technology.
- Topics for discussion include: National Program Measures, Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation (WIIN) Act, Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWSRF), Lead and Copper (LCR) and Action Level Exceedances (ALEs).
- We'll have facilitated discussion on success/challenges on LCR and Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) and relevant implementation updates.
- Topics also include introducing the updated state oversight framework and in-depth discussion on new essential data management tools Communication Management Development Plan and Safe Drinking Water Information System Prime.
- Contacts: Sarah Bahrman 312-6243; Gwen Campbell 312-6463

### **Region 8 hosted a Tribal 319 Nonpoint Pollution call on May 4, 2017.**

Key Message: The first call in a series with Region 8 tribes focused on the characteristics of a good nonpoint source restoration projects.

- Representatives from ten Region 8 tribes and staff from Region 10 and HQ participated in the call.
- Due to tribal staff turnover in Nonpoint Source (NPS) positions a future call will focus on introductory watershed restoration information.
- Contact: Peter Ismert 312-6215, Judy Bloom 312-6395

### **Public Hearings on the Draft Underground Injection Control (UIC) Permits for the Dewey Burdock Uranium In-Situ Recovery (ISR) Project Continue the Week of May 8, 2017.**

Key Message: Region 8 held public hearings in three locations in South Dakota the week of May 8 on the draft UIC permits and associated aquifer exemption for the Dewey Burdock ISR project located in Edgemont, SD.

- Hearings were held this week in the following locations:
  - May 8-9 in Rapid City, SD
  - May 10 in Hot Springs, SD
  - May 11 in Edgemont, SD
- A total of 300 people attending the hearings in Rapid City including several commenters who identified as tribal members. The Chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and the Chairman

of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe also commented on the record expressing their concerns with the project and with EPA's consultation on the proposed action.

- Small protests have occurred outside the locations prior to each hearing.
- The comments have been overwhelming in opposition of the project, but attendees have been civil and respectful.
- Press attended the hearings which resulted in several print, television and radio stories:
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://www.blackhillsfox.com/content/news/EPA-gets-feedback-from-Fall-River-on-Uranium-Mine-421935353.html>" ]
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://www.keloland.com/news/article/news/public-hearing-held-by-epa-on-proposed-uranium-mining-project>" ]
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://www.newscenter1.tv/story/35389263/opponents-of-uranium-mine-near-edgemont-fear-water-contamination>" ]
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://www.kotatv.com/content/news/EPA-hears-from-scores-of-residents-opposed-to-uranium-mining-421681693.html>" ]
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://www.blackhillsfox.com/content/news/EPA-holds-hearing-on-proposed-uranium-mine-and-waste-disposal-wells-421680693.html>" ]
  - [ HYPERLINK "<http://listen.sdpb.org/post/epa-hearings-uranium-mining-take-place-black-hills>" ]
- The public comment period is set to end on May 19, 2017; however, EPA received a request from the company to extend the public comment period until July 21, 2017. Region 8 will review the request and make a decision on extending the comment period next week once the team returns from South Dakota.
- Contact: Darcy O'Connor, 312-6392